

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 14-23, 27-35 and 60-67 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 14, 27 and 60 being independent. Claims 1, 14, 27 and 60 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 14, 15, 17-23, 27 and 29-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0014616 (Matsuda) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,070,053 (Yamashita); claims 3, 16, 28 and 60-67 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Yamashita, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,418,330 (Lee); and claim 67 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuda in view of Yamashita, and further in view of Lee, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,791 (Lin). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 14, 27 and 60 have been amended to recite determining whether a call signal itself includes information identifying an audible signal and in a case where the call signal itself includes information identifying an audible signal, determining whether the call signal is from a source listed in memory as being pre-authorized to cause an audible signal identified by its call signal to be generated. The audible signal that is generated is the audible signal represented by a pre-configured and complete digital representation provided in a memory location selected in a selecting step, except that in response to receipt of a call signal that itself includes information identifying an audible signal and that is from a source listed in the memory as being pre-authorized, the audible signal that is generated is that audible signal identified by the

call signal, rather than the audible signal represented by the pre-configured and complete digital representation provided in the memory location selected in the selecting step.

The Office Action concedes that Matsuda fails to teach or suggest that in response to receipt of a call signal that includes information identifying an audible signal and that is from a source listed in memory as pre-authorized, the audible signal that is generated is the signal identified by the call signal, rather than pre-configured representation from the selecting step. For this feature, the Office Action looks to Yamashita. But Yamashita does not disclose this feature at all.

Yamashita relates to what is known as a “selective paging receiver,” which is a paging device that gives calling notification and displays a received message only when the calling signal includes the identification (ID) code of the paging receiver. The system of Yamashita works as follows: the call originator performs an ordinary calling operation, and also inputs the ID code of the receiving device. The call originator may also input music data after his message and the ID code. When the call signal (which will include the message and the ID code, and optionally music data) is received by the selective calling receiver, the receiver compares the ID code on the call signal with the ID code stored in its memory. If the two ID codes coincide, the message is sent to music data receiving section 32, to determine if music data is included. If music data is included, calling notification (i.e., ringing) is performed using that music data; while if music data is not included, calling notification is performed using a stored, preset sound. No check is made to determine whether the calling device is authorized to cause the ringing to be performed with its own music data.

Accordingly, in Yamashita, the ID code in the call signal and in the receiver's memory are compared not to determine whether or not to use the music data in the call signal for ringing, but for the very different, threshold purpose of determining whether the message may be received at all. And if the message may be received (i.e., if the ID codes match), then music data in the call signal is used for ringing in all cases in which such music data exists.

In the present invention, in stark contrast, when the call signal includes information identifying an audible signal, a determination is made as to whether the call signal is from a source that is pre-authorized to cause its audible signal to be generated. The check, therefore, is not made to determine whether the call may be received, as is done in Yamashita, but to determine whether the audible signal identified by the call signal should be used for ringing.

In view of the fundamental difference between the approach of the present invention and that of Yamashita, Applicant respectfully submits that Yamashita, even if, combined with Matsuda, cannot correct its deficiencies. Accordingly, it is believed to be clear that the independent claims are allowable over Matsuda taken in any permissible combination (if any exists) with Yamashita, or with any other cited art.

All remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims discussed above, and each partakes in the novelty and non-obviousness of its respective base claim. In addition, each recites additional patentable features of the present invention, and individual reconsideration of each is respectfully requested.

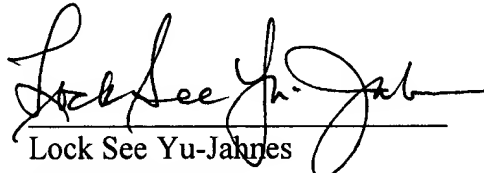
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and passage to issue of the present application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-1205. If an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above is required, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account. Please direct all correspondence to the address associated with the following Customer Number:

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Respectfully submitted,


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